

**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
*Western District of New York*

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# PRESS RELEASE

May 10, 2004

**RE: UNITED STATES v. KENNETH J. HAPPY**

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced that Kenneth J. Happy, 37, of Erie, Pennsylvania, pled guilty today before U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny to one count of traveling in interstate commerce for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity with a minor. The maximum penalty is 15 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Marie P. Grisanti said the defendant met a fifteen-year-old girl over the Internet early in 2003 and, in March 2003, drove from Erie, PA, to Westfield, New York, to meet with her.

The conviction was the result of an investigation by the Jamestown office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter J. Ahearn; the Erie, Pennsylvania office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Ahearn, and the Westfield Police Department under the direction of Chief Kenneth Machemer.

Sentencing is scheduled for September 10, 2004, at 9:00 a.m. before Judge Skretny.

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